

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**January 22, 2007**

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Sue Minchew (for Richard Blackburn), Frances Coleman, Jerry Gilbert, Kent Hoblet, Danny Hollingsworth, George Hopper, Nick Nichols, Phil Oldham, Bill Person, Ruth Prescott, , Glenn Steele, Lynn Reinschmiedt (for Vance Watson), Lee Weiskopf, Jim West, and Jeanne Swafford. Also present were: Mark Binkley, Butch Stokes, Julie Fulgham, Charles Guest, Mike Rackley and Kirk Schulz

1. Dr. Rabideau gave an overview of the events surrounding the submission of the Construction Building Science Program as well as the PhD in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. The Earth and Atmospheric Sciences PhD was withdrawn; the Construction Building Science Program will be on the February agenda. We will prepare a one-page information sheet showing the differences in this program and the program at University of Southern Mississippi.
2. Dr. Rabideau said each college needs to identify a college research officer or Associate Dean of Research. This is mentioned in the Strategic Plan. Dr. Schulz stated that the Office of Research would try to schedule monthly meetings with these people as soon as they are identified.
3. Sabbatical Leaves: If faculty members are going to spend their sabbatical at another institution, we need a letter from that institution. We will put this information in our instructions. Dr. Rabideau will approve all sabbaticals as submitted. Release time, rather than a sabbatical leave, is more appropriate in some circumstances.
4. Promotion and Tenure: We are presently reviewing the Promotion and Tenure dossiers.
5. Announcements:
  - After discussion with the President, Dr. Rabideau suggested encouraging all departments to have a procedure for nominating faculty for awards. The President is talking about national awards.
  - The President wants us to submit for approval to the Chief of Staff any speakers coming to campus that will cost more than \$1,000 (including honorarium, travel, etc.). **[Revised later to read "cost more than \$2,000 plus expenses"]** Please submit name, brief description of visit, estimated cost, and where funds will come from. Dr. Rabideau will ask for more clarification. Mr. Guest reported that a policy would be forthcoming, and suggested using "consultant fee" or "speaker fee" rather than "honorarium". This information should come through the Provost office and we will submit to the Chief of Staff, and it should begin immediately.
6. Dr. Schulz items:

- Distributed a memo regarding Research Compliance and Restructuring of E&G Funds in the Office of Research and led a discussion concerning this restructuring.
  - Asked deans to submit to him within a week information regarding start-up requests that might be forthcoming.
  - Travel requests for funds submitted to the Office of Research should already have the support and endorsement of the dean and department head. These requests can be via e-mail. After the travel paid for by the Office of Research has taken place, we request a report from the faculty member.
  - The President wants us to develop a strong research agenda for the university. By the end of the semester, we want a set of key areas where we think MSU can be internationally renowned.
7. Mike Rackley reported that an e-mail sent out today informs everyone that as long as they are a GroupWise user, instant messenger is available to you. This is a tool for quick notification as warranted.
8. Other Items:
- Dean Nichols reported that the Governor will be at the Riley Center on Thursday for a town meeting. We have several performers coming in, including Mel Torme's son and Blood, Sweat, and Tears.
  - Dean Hopper reported that Steve Grado was named International Fellow. Rick Kaminski received State Conservationist award and Debbie Gaddis received Forest Conservation Award.
  - Dean Hoblet reported that the Wildlife Pathology and Outreach appointment has been approved at Forest Resources and Veterinary Medicine; we have approval of hiring an aquatic pathologist, an endowed professorship, located at Stoneville; two of three departments are in department head searches, with candidates coming in this month.
  - Dean Coleman reported that the Library had a successful project on Saturday evening with a showcase, attracting over 200 people.
  - Lee Weiskopf reported that the Student Association elections are coming up on February 20; "Spirit of the State" award nominations are open now. Information concerning this award is available on the Vice President for Student Association web-site; the students are working with Dr. Kibler's office to select a new food vendor; Wednesday night's basketball will be "white out the hump" night at Humphrey Coliseum.
  - Dean Hollingsworth reported that the College of Business and Industry has two dean candidates on campus this week.
  - Dean Oldham reported that Alicia Beatty in Chemistry has received the NSF Career Award.
  - Dean Steele reported that Mechanical Engineering Career Award went to Keith Walters.
  - Dean Person reported that enrollment is up about 1% in graduate education

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- Dr. Swafford reported that the Faculty Senate expressed concern that the Vice President for Research and Economic Development search is an internal search.